

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3805

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NEA/PAB TO PASS TO AAFLI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, BG

SUBJ: INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGE

TO: CHARLES GRAY

ASIAN AMERICAN FREE LABOR INSTITUTE

1775 K STREET N.W.

WASHINGTON DC

1. TODAY I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH BROTHER NEHAL, SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, JATYO SHRAMIK LEAGUE, ON THE SUBJECT OF AAFLI'S FUTURE PROGRAM IN BANGLADESH. IT IS THE JSL'S OPINION THAT: (A) AAFLI SHOULD NOT HAVE A PERMANENT REP IN BANGLADESH. THIS OPINION, AS STATED IN BROTHER MANNAN'S REPORT TO THE CONVENTION, IS ALSO THAT OF THE PRIMESMINISTER. THERE SHOULD BE NO CONDITIONS TO AID GIVEN TO JSL AND THE PROVISION OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IS A KIND OF CONDITION. ACCORDING TO MR. NEHAL, IF AAFLI AGREES TO A REGIONAL TYPE PROGRAM FOR BANGLADESH, PERMISSION FOR THE COMMODITIES IMPORT WILL BE GIVEN IN A FEW DAYS. THE REASON THAT THIS PERMISSION WAS NOT GIVEN BEFORE WAS THAT AAFLI HAD ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO BRING IN OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OF A REP ALONG WITH THE COMMODITIES TO BE GIVEN TO JSL. (B) AAFLI CAN SENT A REP TO BANGLADESH FOR THE TIME NEEDED TO DONATE THE COMMODITIES ("A REP CAN COME AND GIVE THE COMMODITIES AND LEAVE; IT WILL NOT TAKE LONG") AND TO SPONSOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS AGREED UPON BY JSL AND AAFLI. JSL WILL MAKE ALL PRIOR

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE PROGRAMS.

2. THIS DECISION WAS NOT COMMUNICATED TO AAFLI UNTIL AFTER THE CONVENTION AND REELECTION OF BROTHER MANNAN FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO MYSELF. THIS DECISION ALSO REFLECTS AN AGREEMENT (NEHAL SPEAKING HERE) "BETWEEN BROTHER PALADINO AND BROTHER MANNAN THAT NO PERMANENT REP WOULD BE SENT TO BANGLADESH." THIS AGREEMENT WAS SUPPOSEDLY MADE IN WASHINGTON LAST YEAR (1973).

3. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN OBJECTIONS TO OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS UP TO THE PRESENT, NEHAL REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW OF ANY SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS BUT DID SAY THAT BROTHER MANNAN FEELS THAT OUR PROGRAMS IN TEA, LAUNCH, ETC., WOULD NOT HAVE ANY WORTHWHILE IMPACT. WE WERE WASTING TIME AND MONEY.

4. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE TEXTILE PROJECT, NEHAL SAID THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO OUR FOLLOWING THROUGH ON A PAST COMMITMENT.

5. WHAT NEHAL WANTED TO COMMUNICATE WAS THAT AN AAFLI PROGRAM BUT NO PERMANENT AAFLI REP WAS WANTED. THIS DECISION WAS NOT ONLY JSL'S BUT THAT OF THE AWAMI LEAGUE, EVEN SHEIKH MUJIB.

6. I WILL TRY TO TALK WITH MANNAN AND RAHMAN BEFORE GOING TO SEE MORRIS IN BANGKOK. TO PAY OFF DEBTS PLEASE REMIT TELEGRAPHICALLY \$1,500. OFF TO BANGKOK ON AUGUST 2 TO CONSULT MORRIS. SIGNED RICHARD V. OULAHAN. INTERESTED PARTY.
BOSTER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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